

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1-7, the specification and provides a new abstract. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments made to the claims, the specification and the new abstract do not add any new matter.

Specifically, the specification has been amended to include a paragraph regarding the related PCT application. A new Abstract is provided that complies with the laws regarding length and content of Abstracts. Finally, the claims have been amended to clarify the features recited therein.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

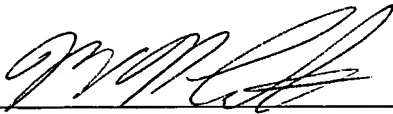
Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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0925-0216PUS1

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